



RESTRICTEDCOPY NO. 3

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C.I.G. ☐25 February 1946CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUPSURVEY OF THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING PRESS  
AND PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERSMemorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence

1. During the war the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a Foreign Broadcasting Intelligence Service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.
2. The FCC was in the process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945. The War Department has requested that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of former FBIS functions with a view to determining the most appropriate Government agency to monitor foreign propaganda broadcasts on a continuing basis and make the necessary recommendations to the National Intelligence Authority (Enclosure "B").
3. It appears that this study should be undertaken as a matter of urgency. The Central Intelligence Group is prepared to furnish the steering member of an interdepartmental committee, and believes that such a committee should be organized at once to make the necessary study.
4. Paragraph 3 of N.I.A. Directive No. 1 provides a procedure by which such a committee can be created by unanimous approval of the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, without reference to the National Intelligence Authority.
5. The memorandum in Enclosure "A" is designed to establish the proposed committee and give it the necessary directive. If all members of the Advisory Board concur in the draft without substantial change, a meeting will not be necessary. It is

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recommended that Enclosure "A" be approved, and that each member of the Advisory Board arrange for necessary implementation by his Department,

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4 June 1946

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PAPER: CIG ☐ (Provision for Monitoring of Press and  
 Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers)  
 CLASSIFICATION: CONFIDENTIAL

<u>CONSIGNEE.</u>	<u>COPY NUMBER</u>
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE	1
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Assistant to the Director	
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CHIEF OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES	13
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Administrative Services Branch	
Central Records Section	22 & 23
Security Branch	

AUTHENTICATION: *JH*



ENCLOSURE "A"D R A F TC.I.G. DIRECTIVE NO.SURVEY OF THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING PRESS  
AND PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence,  
with the Unanimous Concurrence  
of the Intelligence Advisory Board

1. a. During the war the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945.

b. The product of the FBIS was valuable to the State Department, to the intelligence agencies of the War and Navy Departments, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and undoubtedly to other departments and agencies.

c. Since the interim arrangements will cease at the end of the fiscal year 1946, it is essential that the ultimate disposition of former FBIS functions be determined at an early date.

2. By unanimous approval of the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board an ad hoc committee is hereby established to consist of five members, one representing the Director of Central Intelligence and one representing each member of the Intelligence Advisory Board. This committee will promptly make a detailed study of facilities, resources and operations for monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts, and will determine whether this service is of continuing value to existing Federal agencies. Its report will include recommendations as to:

a. Which resources, facilities, and operating functions should be continued in the national interest.

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b. What disposition should be made of preserved resources and facilities and what assignments should be made of responsibility for conducting the preserved operating functions.

c. What budgetary arrangements should be made.

3. The committee will submit a report of findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Director of Central Intelligence, who will then prepare suitable recommendations to be submitted to the National Intelligence Authority after obtaining the concurrence or comment of the Intelligence Advisory Board. The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation will be invited to sit as a member of the Intelligence Advisory Board for consideration of these recommendations.

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Enclosure "A"

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ENCLOSURE "B"

12 February 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR REAR ADMIRAL SIDNEY W. SOUERS:

Subject: Monitoring of Foreign Propaganda Broadcasts.

1. During December 1945 the War Department was informed that the Federal Communications Commission was in process of liquidating its Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. Although systematic coverage of foreign propaganda broadcasts was believed primarily the concern of the State Department, it was also valuable as an auxiliary activity to the intelligence functions of the War and Navy Departments. Other government agencies were served by the product of the FBIS. Therefore, as an interim measure only, pending any program the State Department might initiate, the War Department expanded its monitoring program to meet the need arising from the liquidation of FBIS (Tab "A").

2. The War Department, with the approval of the Federal Communications Commission (Tab "B"), accordingly employed former FBIS personnel and placed them on the War Department payroll effective 30 December 1945; and all FBIS facilities, including those held by lease or contract, were acquired by the War Department on loan or by transfer. The War Department arranged for the renegotiation of outstanding leases and contracts, which now constitute a charge against its current operating expenses. Pending detailed arrangements, it acquired by loan fixed facilities and equipment owned by Federal Communications Commission necessary to continued FBIS operations. See Tab "C" for the functional organization of FBIS.

3. It is inappropriate and outside of the scope of its responsibilities for the War Department to continue monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts beyond the fiscal year 1946 (June 30, 1946). Another government agency should be prepared to

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continue the FBIS function after that date. It is therefore proposed that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of the FBIS and its related Central Intelligence functions and make the necessary recommendations to the National Intelligence Authority with a view to determining the most appropriate government agency to monitor foreign propaganda broadcasts on a continuing basis. It is recommended that the War and Navy Departments be informed as early as practicable as to the ultimate disposition of FBIS.

/s/ HOYT S. VANDENBERG  
Lieutenant General, GSC  
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2

- 3 Incls:  
1. Tab "A"  
2. Tab "B"  
3. Tab "C"

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Enclosure "B"

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TAB "A" TO ENCLOSURE "B"

21 December 1945

Honorable Paul Porter  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Porter:

The War Department is advised that the Federal Communications Commission is liquidating the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (FBIS), which monitors and digests propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

Systematic coverage of foreign propaganda broadcasts is believed primarily the concern of the State Department. It also is valuable to the War and Navy Departments. In the circumstances of these times it is an essential source of intelligence. As an interim measure, pending any program the State Department may initiate, the War Department plans to expand its monitoring program to meet the need arising from the liquidation of the FBIS.

It is proposed that all FBIS personnel, without change of grade or duties or accrued leave, be transferred to the War Department prior to 31 December 1945 and that the Commission hold the personnel together by continuing operations pending an orderly determination and transfer of those essential to continued operations.

It is considered important that agreement in principle to the necessary transfers be reached immediately in order to avoid loss of continuity and of experienced personnel. A mutually satisfactory settlement of the details can readily be made by representatives of the War Department and of the Commission. The G-2 Division will represent the War Department in this matter.

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Your acceptance of these proposals is requested. It will facilitate War Department plans to expand its monitoring program in the national interest.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ ROBERT P. PATTERSON

Secretary of War

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TAB "B" TO ENCLOSURE "B"

December 27, 1945

Honorable Robert P. Patterson  
Secretary of War  
Pentagon Building  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Secretary Patterson:

This will acknowledge your letter of 21 December 1945 proposing a transfer to the War Department of the Commission personnel who have been engaged in the monitoring of foreign shortwave broadcasts and further proposing the loan to the War Department of all Federal Communications Commission facilities which have been employed in that activity.

The Commission accepts the proposals made in your letter and steps are being taken immediately to effectuate the arrangements which you suggest. To this end representatives of the War Department and representatives of the Commission met this morning for the purpose of making detailed plans.

The Commission is pleased that the War Department has found it possible to carry on this important activity.

By Direction of the Commission

/s/ PAUL A. PORTER

Chairman

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C.I.G. ☐  
26 April 1946

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

References: a. C.I.G. ☐  
b. C.I.G. ☐

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence

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1. Pursuant to the provisions of C.I.G. Directive No. ☐ an ad hoc committee conducted a study of the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers and submitted a report to the Director of Central Intelligence, with copies to the Intelligence Advisory Board.

2. After consideration of this report and further study by the Central Intelligence Group, the enclosed report to the National Intelligence Authority has been prepared as a basis for action on this matter.

3. It is therefore recommended that the Intelligence Advisory Board concur in the submittal of the Enclosure for consideration by the National Intelligence Authority.

SIDNEY W. SOUERS,  
Director.

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NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY

PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Report by the Director of Central Intelligence  
with the unanimous concurrence of the  
Intelligence Advisory Board

1. During the war, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a foreign broadcast intelligence service (FBIS), which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945. The War Department requested that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of the former FBIS function. An ad hoc committee was appointed by C.I.G. action to make this study. Their report has been submitted to the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board.

2. After consideration of all evidence submitted in the case, the Director of Central Intelligence concludes that:

a. the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is necessary;

b. the present organization performing this function under control of the War Department should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization better adapted to serve the needs of authorized intelligence agencies;

c. the operation of the required monitoring system can be most efficiently performed by the War Department under directives as to collection and distribution to be issued by the Director of Central Intelligence.

Discussion upon which these conclusions are based is contained  
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in Enclosure "B" (Appendix "B" hereto).

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3. The enclosed draft N.I.A. Directive has been prepared to provide the means for carrying out the recommendations based upon the above conclusions. It has been unanimously concurred in by the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, which included the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a member for consideration of this matter.

4. It is recommended that the National Intelligence Authority approve the draft directive in Enclosure "A" (Appendix "A" hereto).

CONFIDENTIALAPPENDIX "A"D R A F TPROPOSED N.I.A. DIRECTIVEPROVISION FOR MONITORING PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of the letter from the President, dated 22 January 1946, which designated this Authority as responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating the federal foreign intelligence activities so as to assure the most effective accomplishment of the intelligence mission related to the national security, the following policies and procedures relating to the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers are announced:

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an essential means of collecting intelligence information required by the intelligence agencies of the State, War, Navy, and other governmental departments. It will be operated by the War Department so as to carry out collecting and distributing missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. The present organization carrying on this function under the control and direction of the War Department will be liquidated. Concurrently with the liquidation, a new foreign broadcast monitoring service will be organized and operated by the War Department so as to serve, with a minimum of interruption, the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination. This service will be given a new name by the War Department.

3. The Director of Central Intelligence will be responsible for the assignment of appropriate collecting and distributing missions to the War Department official charged with the operation of this

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service. These missions will be such as to meet the needs of the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination.

4. The State and Navy Departments will give to the War Department such assistance and the use of such facilities, within their respective capabilities, as may be necessary properly to fulfill the mission herein assigned.

5. The War Department will take the necessary budgetary action to carry out the program herein initiated.

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APPENDIX "B"

DISCUSSION

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an overt means of obtaining intelligence information of use to the intelligence agencies of State, War and Navy Departments.

2. This function was originally undertaken by FBIS under the FCC early in 1941 as a result of recommendations made by the Defence communications Board.

3. The FBIS was organized functionally into: an office of the Director which gave general supervision to the service; a Monitoring Division responsible for preparing the monitoring schedule for all FBIS stations and of providing excerpts from programs monitored near Washington; a Publications Division responsible for preparing and issuing reports on incoming broadcasts for rapid distribution to government agencies requesting them and for maintaining a central background file; an Administrative Services Division responsible for mimeographing, collating, and distributing the processed reports; and a

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4. The War Department was informed in December 1945 that the FCC was in process of liquidating the FBIS. The War Department thereupon expanded its monitoring program to meet the need arising from this liquidation. The War Department employed former FBIS personnel, effective 30 December 1945, and has since acquired by transfer all FBIS facilities, including those held by lease or contract. The War Department arranged for the renegotiation of outstanding leases and contracts.

5. The function of monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts should be continued since it is of value to the intelligence agencies of the State, War, Navy, and other government departments. Based upon a survey, the Department of State appears to have the greatest use for the product of such monitoring. The necessary budget arrangements to maintain this function should be made for the Fiscal Year 1947. The War Department is the only agency now prepared to undertake this budget problem and it has included the necessary funds in its budget requirements.

6. It appears that the present organization carrying on the former functions of the FBIS under War Department direction should be liquidated for the following reasons:

a. Its reports are circulated too generally to organizations and individuals, including foreign agencies. In order that proper intelligence direction may be given to its activities, its product should be restricted to authorized intelligence agencies of the Federal government.

b. The personnel of the organization have not been screened for security. Adequate screening is essential, since disclosure of the direction given to the activities of the organization would be detrimental to this Nation's interests and security.

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11. Paragraph 3 c, of the President's letter of January 22 requires the Director of Central Intelligence to perform, for the benefit of intelligence agencies of the State, War and Navy Departments, "such services of common concern as the National Intelligence Authority determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally." It appears clear that direction of monitoring effort for the benefit of these intelligence agencies can be accomplished more efficiently centrally. However, with regard to efficiency of actual operation, little evidence can be found to justify a conclusion that operation by the Central Intelligence Group would be more efficient than operation by one of the departments. In any event, the evidence is not strong enough to justify the establishment of the required overhead facilities in the Central Intelligence Group, duplicating those already existing in other agencies. The following comments on relative efficiency also apply:

a. Lack of organic communication facilities militates against efficient and economical operation by the State Department.

b. Lack of direct staff control of monitoring facilities by ONI militates against efficient operation by the Navy Department.

c. Lack of organic communication facilities and established overhead facilities militates against efficient and economical operation by the Central Intelligence Group. Moreover, it appears that the C.I.G. is not legally authorized to assume the contractual obligations involved.

d. Considering that the War Department has none of the lacks specified in a to c above, it is believed that operation of the function by the War Department would be somewhat more efficient and economical than by any other agency.



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8 May 1946CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS  
Reference: C.I.G. Memorandum by the Secretary

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1. The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, WDGS, has disapproved  
C.I.G.  with the following comments:

a. It is agreed that performing the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is necessary, and that the present organization performing this function should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization better adapted to serve the needs of authorized intelligence agencies. However, it is not agreed that the required monitoring system can be performed most efficiently by the War Department.

b. The State Department is the primary user of the monitored material, although the War and Navy Departments also have an interest. A Central Intelligence Group function is the operation of intelligence services when such services are provided the several intelligence agencies. Thus, it appears that operation of this monitoring system is a CIG responsibility. In lieu of CIG, the alternative is that the State Department perform the service. Under no circumstances should the War Department engage in a continuing basis in this predominately nonmilitary intelligence function.

2. The above action and comments are submitted for consideration by the Intelligence Advisory Board at its meeting at 1430 on Thursday, 9 May 1946.

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JAMES S. LAY, JR.,  
Secretary, N.I.A.

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4 June 1946

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PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

References: a. C.I.G. ☐  
b. C.I.G. ☐  
c. Minutes I.A.B. 4th Meeting, Item 2

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence

1. The enclosed memorandum from the Special Assistant to the Secretary of State is submitted to the Intelligence Advisory Board for consideration in connection with the references.

2. In the light of the enclosure, it is recommended that the Intelligence Advisory Board concur in the submittal of the enclosure to C.I.G. ☐ for consideration by the National Intelligence Authority.

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SIDNEY W. SOUERS  
Director

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E N C L O S U R E

May 27, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR: REAR ADMIRAL SIDNEY W. SOUERS,  
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: The Practicability of State Department  
Operation of FBIS (Foreign Broadcast  
Intelligence Service)

As a result of the discussion during the meeting of the Intelligence Advisory Board on May 9, 1946, and a subsequent conference with representatives of the Central Planning Staff of CIG and G-2, the Department has made a careful study of the practicability of its taking over the operation of FBIS from the War Department. The Department concludes:

- a. That it is not practicable for it to assume responsibility for the operation of FBIS.
- b. That it concurs with the Director of Central Intelligence in the view that the War Department should properly continue to have responsibility for the operation of FBIS, at least during fiscal 1947.
- c. That a comprehensive program for the relocation of the facilities used by FBIS should be undertaken to improve the coverage of broadcast intelligence.
- d. That direction of the monitoring effort should be assumed by the Director of Central Intelligence, and that the Department is prepared to collaborate closely with the Director in that connection.
- e. That the service provided by FBIS is of great value, and that the Department will be ready to support budget requests for FBIS.

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(Signed) WILLIAM L. LANGER

WILLIAM L. LANGER  
(Special Assistant to the  
Secretary of State)

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Enclosure

9 May, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

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Subject: C.I.G.  (FBIS).

Reference: Memorandum of General Vandenberg, dated 8/5/46.

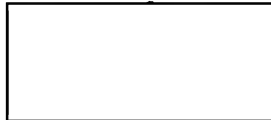
1. Statement in reference memo that "A Central Intelligence Group function is the operation of intelligence services when such services are provided the several intelligence agencies" is an inaccurate interpretation of the President's letter of 22 January 1946.

2. Paragraph 3.c. of the President's letter states that the Director of Central Intelligence shall "perform ----- such services of common concern as the National Intelligence Authority determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally."

3. Only when the criterion of greater efficiency applies, is the performance of a service intended to devolve upon the Director of Central Intelligence. The evidence in the case of the monitoring of press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers shows conclusively that the Central Intelligence Group cannot perform the function most efficiently and that, on the contrary, only the War Department - being free of the lacks which hamper the other agencies considered - can perform the function most efficiently.

4. Although the Department of State is shown by statistics to display a somewhat greater interest than War and Navy Departments in the intelligence information collected by means of the monitoring service, the non-military character of the bulk of the information collected does not remove it from direct and important War Department interest. The existence of the large "Pol-Ec" Branch of M.I.D. and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces are outstanding evidences of that fact.

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Captain, U.S.N.  
Acting Chief, Central Planning Staff

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8 May 1946

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MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY:

SUBJECT: CIG 

Returned herewith is subject paper concerning provision for monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers with comments as follows:

(a) It is agreed that performing the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is necessary, and that the present organization performing this function should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization better adapted to serve the needs of authorized intelligence agencies. However, it is not agreed that the required monitoring system can be performed most efficiently by the War Department.

(b) The State Department is the primary user of the monitored material, although the War and Navy Departments also have an interest. A Central Intelligence Group function is the operation of intelligence services when such services are provided the several intelligence agencies. Thus, it appears that operation of this monitoring system is a CIG responsibility. In lieu of CIG, the alternative is that the State Department perform the service. Under no circumstances should the War Department engage on a continuing basis in this predominately non-military intelligence function.

HOYT S. VANDENBERG (Signed)

HOYT S. VANDENBERG  
LIEUT. GENERAL, GSC  
A. C. of S., G-2

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C.I.G. ☐4 June 1946*Cited in*CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERSReferences: a. C.I.G. ☐  
b. C.I.G. ☐  
c. Minutes I.A.B. 4th Meeting, Item 2Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence

1. The enclosed memorandum from the Special Assistant to the Secretary of State is submitted to the Intelligence Advisory Board for consideration in connection with the references.

2. In the light of the enclosure, it is recommended that the Intelligence Advisory Board concur in the submittal of the enclosure to C.I.G. ☐ for consideration by the National Intelligence Authority.

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SIDNEY W. SOUERS  
Director

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E N C L O S U R E

May 27, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR: REAR ADMIRAL SIDNEY W. SOUERS,  
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: The Practicability of State Department  
Operation of FBIS (Foreign Broadcast  
Intelligence Service)

As a result of the discussion during the meeting of the Intelligence Advisory Board on May 9, 1946, and a subsequent conference with representatives of the Central Planning Staff of CIG and G-2, the Department has made a careful study of the practicability of its taking over the operation of FBIS from the War Department. The Department concludes:

- a. That it is not practicable for it to assume responsibility for the operation of FBIS.
- b. That it concurs with the Director of Central Intelligence in the view that the War Department should properly continue to have responsibility for the operation of FBIS, at least during fiscal 1947.
- c. That a comprehensive program for the relocation of the facilities used by FBIS should be undertaken to improve the coverage of broadcast intelligence.
- d. That direction of the monitoring effort should be assumed by the Director of Central Intelligence, and that the Department is prepared to collaborate closely with the Director in that connection.
- e. That the service provided by FBIS is of great value, and that the Department will be ready to support budget requests for FBIS.

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(Signed) WILLIAM L. LANGER

WILLIAM L. LANGER  
(Special Assistant to the  
Secretary of State)

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Enclosure

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4 June 1946

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PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

References: a. C.I.G. ☐  
b. C.I.G. ☐  
c. Minutes I.A.B. 4th Meeting, Item 2

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence

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1. The enclosed memorandum from the Special Assistant to the Secretary of State is submitted to the Intelligence Advisory Board for consideration in connection with the references.
2. In the light of the enclosure, it is recommended that the Intelligence Advisory Board concur in the submittal of the enclosure to C.I.G. ☐ for consideration by the National Intelligence Authority.

SIDNEY W. SOUERS  
Director

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ENCLOSURE

May 27, 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR: REAR ADMIRAL SIDNEY W. SOUERS,  
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: The Practicability of State Department  
Operation of FBIS (Foreign Broadcast  
Intelligence Service).

As a result of the discussion during the meeting of the Intelligence Advisory Board on May 9, 1946, and a subsequent conference with representatives of the Central Planning Staff of CIG and G-2, the Department has made a careful study of the practicability of its taking over the operation of FBIS from the War Department. The Department concludes:

a. That it is not practicable for it to assume responsibility for the operation of FBIS.

b. That it concurs with the Director of Central Intelligence in the view that the War Department should properly continue to have responsibility for the operation of FBIS, at least during fiscal 1947.

c. That a comprehensive program for the relocation of the facilities used by FBIS should be undertaken to improve the coverage of broadcast intelligence.

d. That direction of the monitoring effort should be assumed by the Director of Central Intelligence, and that the Department is prepared to collaborate closely with the Director in that connection.

e. That the service provided by FBIS is of great value, and that the Department will be ready to support budget requests for FBIS.

(Signed) WILLIAM L. LANGER

WILLIAM L. LANGER  
(Special Assistant to the  
Secretary of State)

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8 May 1946

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

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PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Reference: C.I.G. ☐

Memorandum by the Secretary

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1. The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, WDGS, has disapproved  
C.I.G. ☐ with the following comments:

a. It is agreed that performing the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is necessary, and that the present organization performing this function should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization better adapted to serve the needs of authorized intelligence agencies. However, it is not agreed that the required monitoring system can be performed most efficiently by the War Department.

b. The State Department is the primary user of the monitored material, although the War and Navy Departments also have an interest. A Central Intelligence Group function is the operation of intelligence services when such services are provided the several intelligence agencies. Thus, it appears that operation of this monitoring system is a CIG responsibility. In lieu of CIG, the alternative is that the State Department perform the service. Under no circumstances should the War Department engage in a continuing basis in this predominately nonmilitary intelligence function.

2. The above action and comments are submitted for consideration by the Intelligence Advisory Board at its meeting at 1430 on Thursday, 9 May 1946.

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JAMES S. LAY, JR.,

Secretary, N.I.A.

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## DISPOSITION FORM

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FROM	TO	DATE		FROM	TO	DATE	
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							Far East-Pacific Branch
			CHIEF OF OPERATIONAL SERVICES				Western Hemisphere Branch
X		6/14	CHIEF, CENTRAL PLANNING STAFF				ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER
			Policy & Review Branch				Personnel Branch
			Information Branch				Budget & Fiscal Branch
			Intelligence Branch				Administrative Services Branch
			Security Branch				Central Records
			Support Branch				Security Branch

## REFERENCES:

## ENCLOSURES:

☐ ACTION ☐ DIRECT REPLY  
☐ RECOMMENDATION ☐ COMMENT  
☐ SIGNATURE ☐ FILE  
☐ INFORMATION ☐ NOTE  
☐ RETURN ☐ MAIL  
☐ PREPARATION OF REPLY


REMARKS: SUBJECT: FBIS; Disposition of

25X1A

25X1A

Since the IAB meeting of 10 June, the Chief, Central Planning Staff, has received no instructions as to further action required by the Planning Staff on the above subject.

25X1A

  
 Acting Chief, Central Planning Staff

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(Continue "Remarks" on back, if necessary)

TOP SECRET

SECRET

CONFIDENTIAL

RESTRICTED

(216-S)

CONFIDENTIAL

CPS/HFC/ctg

9 May, 1946

25X1A

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

Subject: C.I.G. ☐ (FBIS).

Reference: Memorandum of General Vandenberg, dated 8/5/46.

1. Statement in reference memo that "A Central Intelligence Group function is the operation of intelligence services when such services are provided the several intelligence agencies" is an inaccurate interpretation of the President's letter of 22 January 1946.

2. Paragraph 3.c. of the President's letter states that the Director of Central Intelligence shall "perform ----- such services of common concern as the National Intelligence Authority determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally."

3. Only when the criterion of greater efficiency applies, is the performance of a service intended to devolve upon the Director of Central Intelligence. The evidence in the case of the monitoring of press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers shows conclusively that the Central Intelligence Group cannot perform the function most efficiently and that, on the contrary, only the War Department - being free of the lacks which hamper the other agencies considered - can perform the function most efficiently.

4. Although the Department of State is shown by statistics to display a somewhat greater interest than War and Navy Departments in the intelligence information collected by means of the monitoring service, the non-military character of the bulk of the information collected does not remove it from direct and important War Department interest. The existence of the large "Pol-Ec" Branch of M.I.D. and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces are outstanding evidences of that fact.

25X1A

☐  
Captain, U.S.N.

Acting Chief, Central Planning Staff

CONFIDENTIAL

STATINTL

Subj: C.I.G. ☐

1. The subject paper is
  - a. Approved without change
  - b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below
  - c. Disapproved. Request meeting of I.A.B. to consider paper
2. Suggestions or amendments \*.....

✓  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STATINTL

(Signature)

29 April 1946  
(Date)

Return to: Room 4254  
New War Dept. Bldg.

\* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require security classification of this paper.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY: *just*

STATINTL

Subject: C.I.G.

1. The subject paper is
  - a. Approved without change \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Disapproved. Request meeting of I.A.B. to consider paper \_\_\_\_\_ **X**
2. Suggestions or amendments \*. See. Memo. attached

MAY 8 3 37 PM '46

*Noyt S. Vandenberg*  
(Signature) HOYT S. VANDENBERG  
LIEUT. GENERAL, GSC  
A. C. of S., G-2 *de*

MAY 8 1946

(Date)

Return to: Room 4254  
New War Dept. Bldg.

\* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require security classification of this paper.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*41163*



WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2  
WASHINGTON 25, D.C.

3 37 PM '41

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY:

SUBJECT: CIG

25X1A

Returned herewith is subject paper concerning provision for monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers with comments as follows:

(a) It is agreed that performing the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is necessary, and that the present organization performing this function should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization better adapted to serve the needs of authorized intelligence agencies. However, it is not agreed that the required monitoring system can be performed most efficiently by the War Department.

(b) The State Department is the primary user of the monitored material, although the War and Navy Departments also have an interest. A Central Intelligence Group function is the operation of intelligence services when such services are provided the several intelligence agencies. Thus, it appears that operation of this monitoring system is a CIG responsibility. In lieu of CIG, the alternative is that the State Department perform the service. Under no circumstances should the War Department engage on a continuing basis in this predominately non-military intelligence function.

*Hoyt S. Vandenberg*  
HOYT S. VANDENBERG  
LIEUT. GENERAL, GSC  
A. C. of S., G-2

CONFIDENTIAL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY:

Subject: C.I.G.

STATINTL

1. The subject paper is
  - a. Approved without change ✓
  - b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below
  - c. Disapproved. Request meeting of I.A.B. to consider paper
2. Suggestions or amendments \*.....

MAY 6 1 37 PM '46

*Chas. J. Inglis*

*for* (Signature)

THOS. B. INGLIS,  
Rear Admiral, U. S. Navy,  
Chief of Naval Intelligence.  
(Date)

Return to: Room 4254  
New War Dept. Bldg.

2 MAY 1946

\* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require security classification of this paper.



FBI

30 April, 1946

STATINTL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY BOARD:

Subject: C.I.G. ☐

1. It is requested that the individual members of the Intelligence Advisory Board return the attached memorandum to the Secretary by 1630, Monday, 6 May 1946, after making appropriate entry in the space provided.

JAMES S. LAY, JR.  
Secretary, N.I.A.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY:

STATINTL

Subject: C.I.G. ☐

1. The subject paper is

- a. Approved without change md.
- b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below \_\_\_\_\_
- c. Disapproved. Request meeting of I.A.B. to consider paper \_\_\_\_\_

2. Suggestions or amendments \*.....

md. (FBI)  
(Signature)

5/7/46  
(Date)

Return to: Room 4254  
New War Dept. Bldg.

\* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require security classification of this paper.

26 April, 1946

STATINTL

MEMORANDUM FOR THE INTELLIGENCE ADVISORY BOARD:

Subject: C.I.G. ☐

1. It is requested that the individual members of the Intelligence Advisory Board return the attached memorandum to the Secretary by 1630, Thursday, 2 May 1946, after making appropriate entry in the space provided.

JAMES S. LAY, JR.  
Secretary, N.I.A.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY:

STATINTL

Subject: C.I.G. ☐

1. The subject paper is
  - a. Approved without change \_\_\_\_\_
  - b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Disapproved. Request meeting of I.A.B. to consider paper \_\_\_\_\_
2. Suggestions or amendments \*.....

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Return to: Room 4254  
New War Dept. Bldg.

\* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require security classification of this paper.

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COPY NO. 25

25X1A

C.I.G. ☐

26 April 1946

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

25X1A

PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

References: a. C.I.G. ☐  
b. C.I.G. ☐

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence

25X1A

1. Pursuant to the provisions of C.I.G. Directive No. ☐ an ad hoc committee conducted a study of the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers and submitted a report to the Director of Central Intelligence, with copies to the Intelligence Advisory Board.
2. After consideration of this report and further study by the Central Intelligence Group, the enclosed report to the National Intelligence Authority has been prepared as a basis for action on this matter.
3. It is therefore recommended that the Intelligence Advisory Board concur in the submittal of the Enclosure for consideration by the National Intelligence Authority.

25X1A

SIDNEY W. SOUERS,  
Director.

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E N C L O S U R E

DRAFT

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY

PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Report by the Director of Central Intelligence  
with the unanimous concurrence of the  
Intelligence Advisory Board

1. During the war, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a foreign broadcast intelligence service (FBIS), which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945. The War Department requested that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of the former FBIS function. An ad hoc committee was appointed by C.I.G. action to make this study. Their report has been submitted to the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board.

2. After consideration of all evidence submitted in the case, the Director of Central Intelligence concludes that:

a. the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is necessary;

b. the present organization performing this function under control of the War Department should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization better adapted to serve the needs of authorized intelligence agencies;

c. the operation of the required monitoring system can be most efficiently performed by the War Department under directives as to collection and distribution to be issued by the Director of Central Intelligence.

Discussion upon which these conclusions are based is contained in Enclosure B (Appendix B hereto).

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3. The enclosed draft N.I.A. Directive has been prepared to provide the means for carrying out the recommendations based upon the above conclusions. It has been unanimously concurred in by the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, which included the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a member for consideration of this matter.

4. It is recommended that the National Intelligence Authority approve the draft directive in Enclosure "A" (Appendix "A" hereto).

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APPENDIX "A"

D R A F T

PROPOSED N.I.A. DIRECTIVE

PROVISION FOR MONITORING PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of the letter from the President, dated 22 January 1946, which designated this Authority as responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating the federal foreign intelligence activities so as to assure the most effective accomplishment of the intelligence mission related to the national security, the following policies and procedures relating to the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers are announced:

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an essential means of collecting intelligence information required by the intelligence agencies of the State, War, Navy, and other governmental departments. It will be operated by the War Department so as to carry out collecting and distributing missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. The present organization carrying on this function under the control and direction of the War Department will be liquidated. Concurrently with the liquidation, a new foreign broadcast monitoring service will be organized and operated by the War Department so as to serve, with a minimum of interruption, the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination. This service will be given a new name by the War Department.

3. The Director of Central Intelligence will be responsible for the assignment of appropriate collecting and distributing missions to the War Department official charged with the operation of this

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service. These missions will be such as to meet the needs of the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination.

4. The State and Navy Departments will give to the War Department such assistance and the use of such facilities, within their respective capabilities, as may be necessary properly to fulfill the mission herein assigned.

5. The War Department will take the necessary budgetary action to carry out the program herein initiated.

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APPENDIX "B"

DISCUSSION

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an overt means of obtaining intelligence information of use to the intelligence agencies of State, War and Navy Departments.

2. This function was originally undertaken by FBIS under the FCC early in 1941 as a result of recommendations made by the Defence communications Board.

3. The FBIS was organized functionally into: an office of the Director which gave general supervision to the service; a Monitoring Division responsible for preparing the monitoring schedule for all FBIS stations and of providing excerpts from programs monitored near Washington; a Publications Division responsible for preparing and issuing reports on incoming broadcasts for rapid distribution to government agencies requesting them and for maintaining a central background file; an Administrative Services Division responsible for mimeographing, collating, and distributing the processed reports: and a

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4. The War Department was informed in December 1945 that the FCC was in process of liquidating the FBIS. The War Department thereupon expanded its monitoring program to meet the need arising from this liquidation. The War Department employed former FBIS personnel, effective 30 December 1945, and has since acquired by transfer all FBIS facilities, including those held by lease or contract. The War Department arranged for the renegotiation of outstanding leases and contracts.

5. The function of monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts should be continued since it is of value to the intelligence agencies of the State, War, Navy, and other government departments. Based upon a survey, the Department of State appears to have the greatest use for the product of such monitoring. The necessary budget arrangements to maintain this function should be made for the Fiscal Year 1947. The War Department is the only agency now prepared to undertake this budget problem and it has included the necessary funds in its budget requirements.

6. It appears that the present organization carrying on the former functions of the FBIS under War Department direction should be liquidated for the following reasons:

a. Its reports are circulated too generally to organizations and individuals, including foreign agencies. In order that proper intelligence direction may be given to its activities, its product should be restricted to authorized intelligence agencies of the Federal government.

b. The personnel of the organization have not been screened for security. Adequate screening is essential, since disclosure of the direction given to the activities of the organization would be detrimental to this Nation's interests and security.

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7. The present organization should be supplanted by a new organization capable of performing the monitoring function required by authorized intelligence agencies of the Federal government.

8. Central direction of the monitoring effort should be given in order to insure that the specific needs of all proper recipients are considered. This direction can be given by the Director of Central Intelligence, advised by a committee including a coordinator from the Central Intelligence Group and members from A-2, G-2, State, and ONI.

9. Under such central direction, any of the three departments concerned could operate the monitoring, editing and distributing of the press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

a. However, certain preliminary steps would be required before State or Navy could undertake the operation, including:

(1) Provision for the necessary administration and supply;

(2) Transfer of the budget from War Department to the department which would take over the operation;

(3) Arrangements for the necessary communication facilities between the field and Washington;

(4) Screening of personnel for security purposes, including any members of the present organization who may be re-employed in the new organization.

b. Continued operation by the War Department would require only screening of the personnel.

10. Operation by the Central Intelligence Group (as distinguished from central direction of effort) would require that the same steps outlined under 9 a., above, be taken, with particular emphasis on arrangements for administration and supply.

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11. Paragraph 3 c, of the President's letter of January 22 requires the Director of Central Intelligence to perform, for the benefit of intelligence agencies of the State, War and Navy Departments, "such services of common concern as the National Intelligence Authority determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally." It appears clear that direction of monitoring effort for the benefit of these intelligence agencies can be accomplished more efficiently centrally. However, with regard to efficiency of actual operation, little evidence can be found to justify a conclusion that operation by the Central Intelligence Group would be more efficient than operation by one of the departments. In any event, the evidence is not strong enough to justify the establishment of the required overhead facilities in the Central Intelligence Group, duplicating those already existing in other agencies. The following comments on relative efficiency also apply:

a. Lack of organic communication facilities militates against efficient and economical operation by the State Department.

b. Lack of direct staff control of monitoring facilities by ONI militates against efficient operation by the Navy Department.

c. Lack of organic communication facilities and established overhead facilities militates against efficient and economical operation by the Central Intelligence Group. Moreover, it appears that the C.I.G. is not legally authorized to assume the contractual obligations involved.

d. Considering that the War Department has none of the lacks specified in a to c above, it is believed that operation of the function by the War Department would be somewhat more efficient and economical than by any other agency.

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COPY NO. \_\_\_\_\_

25X1A

C.I.G. ☐

26 April 1946

FILE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

25X1A

PROVISION FOR MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Reference: C.I.G. ☐

C.I.G. ☐

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence

1. Pursuant to the provisions of C.I.G. Directive No.  
25X1A ☐ an ad hoc committee conducted a study of the function of  
monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers  
and submitted a report to the Director of Central Intelli-  
gence, with copies to the Intelligence Advisory Board.

2. After consideration of this report and further study  
by the Central Intelligence Group, the enclosed report to the  
National Intelligence Authority has been prepared as a basis  
for action on this matter.

25X1A 3. It is therefore recommended that the Intelligence  
Advisory Board concur in the submittal of the Enclosure for  
consideration by the National Intelligence Authority.

SIDNEY W. SOUERS,  
Director.

FILE

CONFIDENTIAL

C.I.G. ☐

**CONFIDENTIAL**

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY

ILLEGIB

MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Report by the Director of Central Intelligence  
with the unanimous concurrence of the  
Intelligence Advisory Board

1. During the war, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a foreign broadcast intelligence service (FBIS), which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945. The War Department requested that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of the former FBIS function. An ad hoc committee was appointed by C.I.A. action to make this study. Their report has been submitted to the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board.

2. After consideration of all evidence submitted in the case, the Director of Central Intelligence concludes that the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is necessary; ~~that~~ the present organization performing this function under control of the War Department should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization better adapted to serve the needs of authorized intelligence agencies; ~~and that~~ the operation of the required monitoring system can be most efficiently performed by the War Department under directives as to collection and distribution to be issued by the Director of Central Intelligence.

*Discussion upon which these conclusions are based is contained in Enclosure "B" (Appendix "B" hereto).*

3. The enclosed draft N.I.A. Directive has been prepared to provide the means for carrying out the recommendations based upon the above conclusions. It has been unanimously concurred in by the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, which included the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a member for consideration of this matter.

4. It is recommended that the National Intelligence Authority approve the draft directive in Enclosure *"A" (Appendix "A" hereto).*

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ENCLOSURE

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~  
APPENDIX "A"  
DRAFT

PROPOSED N.I.A. DIRECTIVE

PROVISION FOR  
THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING PRESS  
AND PROPAGANDA OF FOREIGN POWERS

BROADCASTS

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of the letter from the President, dated 22 January 1946, which designated this Authority as responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating the federal foreign intelligence activities so as to assure the most effective accomplishment of the intelligence mission related to the national security, the following policies and procedures relating to the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers are announced:

ILLEGIB

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an essential means of collecting intelligence information required by the intelligence agencies of the State, War,  Navy Departments. It will be operated by the War Department so as to carry out collecting and distributing missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. The present organization carrying on this function under the control and direction of the War Department will be liquidated. Concurrently with the liquidation, a new foreign-broadcast monitoring service will be organized and operated by the War Department so as to serve, with a minimum of interruption, the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination. This service will be given a new name by the War Department.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

- 3 -

APPENDIX "A"

**CONFIDENTIAL**

3. The Director of Central Intelligence will be responsible for the assignment of appropriate collecting and distributing missions to the War Department official charged with the operation of this service. These missions will be such as to meet the needs of the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination.

4. The State and Navy Departments will give to the War Department such assistance and the use of such facilities, within their respective capabilities, as may be necessary properly to fulfill the mission herein assigned.

5. The War Department will take the necessary budgetary action to carry out the program herein initiated.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

- 4 -

APPENDIX "A"

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~~~APPENDIX~~ "B"

GPS/HFO/PS

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~~MONITORING OF PRESS AND PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS~~

## DISCUSSION

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an overt means of obtaining intelligence information of use to the intelligence agencies of State, War and Navy Departments.

2. This function was originally undertaken by FBIS under the FCC early in 1941 as a result of recommendations made by the Defence communications Board.

3. The FBIS was organized functionally into: an office of the Director which gave general supervision to the service; a Monitoring Division responsible for preparing the monitoring schedule for all FBIS stations and of providing excerpts from programs monitored near Washington; a Publications Division responsible for preparing and issuing reports on incoming broadcasts for rapid distribution to government agencies requesting them and for maintaining a central background file; an Administrative Services Division responsible for mimeographing, collating, and distributing the processed reports; and a field organization responsible for operating field stations located at strategic points for interception of foreign broadcasts not monitored in the Washington area.

4. The War Department was informed in December 1945 that the FCC was in process of liquidating the FBIS. The War Department thereupon expanded its monitoring program to meet the need arising from this liquidation. The War Department employed former FBIS personnel, effective 30 December 1945, and has since acquired by transfer all FBIS facilities, including those held by lease or contract. The War Department arranged for the renegotiation of outstanding leases and contracts.

CONFIDENTIAL

Appendix "B"



CONFIDENTIAL

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5. The function of monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts should be continued since it is of value to the intelligence *the State, War, Navy and other government departments, Bureau of* agencies of ~~the State~~. The necessary budget arrangements to maintain this function should be made for the Fiscal Year 1947. The War Department is the only agency now prepared to undertake this budget problem and it has included the necessary funds in its budget requirements.

6. It appears that the present organization carrying on the former functions of the FHB under War Department direction should be liquidated for the following reasons:

a. Its reports are circulated too generally to organizations and individuals, including foreign agencies. In order that proper intelligence direction may be given to its activities, its product should be restricted to authorized intelligence agencies of the Federal government.

b. The personnel of the organization have not been screened for security. Adequate screening is essential, since disclosure of the direction given to the activities of the organization would be detrimental to this Nation's interests and security.

7. The present organization should be supplanted by a new organization capable of performing the monitoring function required by authorized intelligence agencies of the Federal government.

8. Central direction of the monitoring effort should be given in order to insure that the specific needs of all proper recipients are considered. This direction can be given by the Director of Central Intelligence, *advised* ~~aided~~ by a committee including a coordinator from the Central Intelligence Group and members from A-2, G-2, *States* ~~and~~ and ONI.

9. Under such central direction, any of the three departments concerned could operate the monitoring, editing and distributing of the press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

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a. However, certain preliminary steps would be required before State or Navy could undertake the operation, including:-

- (1) Provision for the necessary administration and supply;
- (2) Transfer of the budget from War Department to the department which would take over the operation;
- (3) Arrangements for the necessary communication facilities between the field and Washington;
- (4) Screening of personnel for security purposes, including any members of the present organization who may be re-employed in the new organization.

b. Continued operation by the War Department would require only screening of the personnel.

10. Operation by the Central Intelligence Group (as distinguished from central direction of effort) would require that the same steps outlined under 9.a., above, be taken, with particular emphasis on arrangements for administration and supply.

11. Paragraph 3.c. of the President's letter of January 22 requires the Director of Central Intelligence to perform, for the benefit of intelligence agencies of the State, War and Navy Departments, "such services of common concern as the National Intelligence Authority determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally." It appears clear that direction of monitoring effort for the benefit of these intelligence agencies can be accomplished more efficiently centrally. However, with regard to efficiency of actual operation, little evidence can be found to justify a conclusion that operation by the Central Intelligence Group would be more efficient than operation by one of the departments. In any event, the evidence is not strong enough to justify the establishment of the required overhead facilities in the Central Intelligence Group, duplicating those already existing in other agencies. The following comments on relative efficiency also apply:

a. Lack of organic communication facilities militates against efficient and economical operation by the State Department.

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- 7 -

Appendix "B"

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b. Lack of direct staff control of monitoring facilities by ONI militates against efficient operation by the Navy Department.

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c. Lack of organic communication facilities and established overhead facilities militates against efficient and economical operation by the Central Intelligence Group, [redacted]  
*is not legally authorized*

d. Considering that the War Department has none of the lacks specified in a. to c. above, it is believed that operation of the function by the War Department would be somewhat more efficient and economical than by any other agency.

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- 8 -

Appendix "B"



**CONFIDENTIAL**

DRAFT

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY

THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Report by the Director of Central Intelligence  
with the unanimous concurrence of the  
Intelligence Advisory Board

1. During the war, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a foreign broadcast intelligence service (FBIS), which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945. The War Department requested that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of the former FBIS function. An ad hoc committee was appointed by C.I.G. action to make this study. Their report has been submitted to the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board.
2. After consideration of all evidence submitted in the case, the Director of Central Intelligence concludes: that the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is necessary; that the present organization performing this function under control of the War Department should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization better adapted to serve the needs of authorized intelligence agencies; and that the operation of the required monitoring system can be most efficiently performed by the War Department under directives as to collection and distribution to be issued by the Director of Central Intelligence. *(Final year 1947)*
3. The enclosed draft N.I.A. Directive has been prepared to provide the means for carrying out the recommendations based upon the above conclusions. It has been unanimously concurred in by the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, which included the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a member for consideration of this matter.
4. It is recommended that the National Intelligence Authority approve the draft directive in Enclosure "C".

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
NEW WAR DEPARTMENT BUILDING  
21st and VIRGINIA AVENUE, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

25 April 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARY, NIA:

SUBJECT: Monitoring the Press and Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers

1. The suggestions made in this morning's council meeting regarding the draft CIG action submitted to the Director on 23 April under memorandum, above subject, have been studied by the Planning Staff.
2. Paragraph 6 b of the proposed memorandum from the Director to the IAB is necessary in order that the Director may know specifically the official to whom the collecting and distributing missions are to be assigned.
3. Paragraph 6 c of the proposed memorandum from the Director to the IAB is necessary, since it sets up the fundamental system by means of which the Director can coordinate this particular intelligence activity. It is necessary that the Director have a means of knowing on a day-to-day basis the specific detailed requirements for information from each of the member agencies. Therefore, a representative from each member agency should serve on an advisory committee in order to present his agency's detailed needs for information and to assist in formulating the terms of collecting and distributing missions. By this means, each agency will be assured that this service of common concern is being performed "for the benefit of said intelligence agencies."
4. The Central Planning Staff recommends that the action be approved as submitted.

25X1A



Acting Chief, Central Planning Staff

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP  
NEW WAR DEPARTMENT BUILDING  
21st and VIRGINIA AVENUE, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

25 April 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR: DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Provision for Monitoring of Press and  
Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers

ENCLOSURES:

a. Memo for the Director of Central Intelligence from the Chief, C.P.S., subject: "C.P.S. Action on Survey of the Function of Monitoring of Press and Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers", dated 23 April 1946.

b. Draft C.I.G. Paper, subject as above, prepared by Secretary, N.I.A.

c. *memo for Secretary, N.I.A. from acting Chief, CPS, dated 25 April 1946.*

1. At its meeting this morning the C.I.G. Council considered Enclosure a.

2. Enclosure b contains a revision of the draft C.I.G. paper in Enclosure a, with Secretariat amendments as to form and substantive amendments suggested in the Council meeting. Particular attention is invited to the deletion of all reference to a committee to assist the Director of Central Intelligence in giving direction to the monitoring function. It was felt that this was a matter for internal decision within C.I.G. Moreover, [redacted] who is suggested as the C.I.G. coordinator, would prefer that the decision as to a coordinating mechanism be deferred pending further study and discussion.

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3. One point raised in the Council meeting which is not incorporated in Enclosure b, is the suggestion that the proposed N.I.A. directive clearly specify that War Department operation of this monitoring is effective for the fiscal year 1947 only. While this may be intended, [redacted] feel that this question should be left unanswered at this time, especially since the possible formation of a central intelligence agency might change the situation prior to the end of the fiscal year 1947.

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4. *Comments by CPS on the Council discussion are contained in Enclosure c.*

JAMES S. LAY, JR.  
Secretary, N.I.A.

CONFIDENTIAL

TEST

CENTRAL PLANNING STAFF

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Remarks:

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP**  
NEW WAR DEPARTMENT BUILDING  
21st and VIRGINIA AVENUE, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

23 April, 1946.

**MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE**

**SUBJECT:** C.P.S. Action on Survey of the Function of Monitoring  
of Press and Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers.

1. Transmitted herewith are the following papers comprising  
Central Planning Staff action on the FBIS Survey:-

a. Memorandum to the members of the I.A.B., with:-

Enclosure A - Discussion;  
Enclosure B - Report by the Director to the N.I.A.;  
Enclosure C - Draft Directive announcing the policy.

2. Attention is invited to paragraph 8 of the "Discussion"  
(Enclosure A), in which provision is made for an advisory committee  
"including a coordinator from the Central Intelligence Group." It  
is suggested that such coordinator should be furnished by the Acting  
Chief of Operational Services, C.I.G.

3. Recommend that the transmitted papers be approved and  
forwarded.



Captain, U.S.N.  
Chief, Central Planning Staff

25X1A

Enclosures: As noted in para. 1.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**DRAFT

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lt. Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg,  
Rear Admiral Thomas B. Inglis,  
Brig. Gen. George C. McDonald,  
Mr. Alfred McCormack, <sup>7</sup>  
Honorable J. Edgar Hoover.

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Press and Propaganda Broadcasts of  
Foreign Powers.

REFERENCE: (a) C.I.G. Directive [ ] dated 5 March 1946.  
(b) Report of Ad Hoc Committee to Survey Foreign  
Broadcast Intelligence Service dated  
18 March 1946.

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1. During the war, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a foreign broadcast intelligence service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945.

2. The product of the FBIS has been valuable to State Department, to the intelligence agencies of the War and Navy Departments, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and undoubtedly to other Departments and agencies.

3. The War Department has requested that a permanent disposition of the functions of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers be determined since the interim arrangements would cease at the end of the Fiscal Year 1946.

4. Discussion of this matter is furnished in Enclosure "A".

5. It is concluded that:-

a. The function of monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts should be performed as a War Department operation, said operation to be performed under directives as to collection and distribution to be issued by the Director of Central Intelligence.

b. The present organization operating the service should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization, the liquidation and reorganization to be accomplished by the War Department in such manner that there shall be a minimum of interruption in the accomplishment of the missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

-2-

c. The State and Navy Departments should assist the War Department, within the measure of their capabilities, in the accomplishment of the missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

6. It is recommended that:-

a. The Draft Directive (Enclosure "C") be concurred in prior to its submission to the N.I.A.

b. The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, designate an officer to be responsible for carrying out the missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence pursuant to paragraph 3. of the Draft Directive (Enclosure "C").

c. Each member of the Intelligence Advisory Board designate a representative to serve as member of a committee to assist the Director of Central Intelligence <sup>or his designated representative</sup> in giving direction to the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

SIDNEY W. SOUERS  
Director

Enclosures:- "A" - Discussion.

"B" - Report by Director of Central Intelligence.

"C" - Draft Directive.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DRAFT

ENCLOSURE "A"

MONITORING OF PRESS AND PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Discussion of points bearing upon and leading to Conclusions in the Director's Memorandum to Members of the Intelligence Advisory Board.

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an overt means of obtaining intelligence information of use to the intelligence agencies of State, War and Navy Departments.
2. This function was originally undertaken by FBIS under the FCC early in 1941 as a result of recommendations made by the Defence communications Board.
3. The FBIS was organized functionally into: an office of the Director which gave general supervision to the service; a Monitoring Division responsible for preparing the monitoring schedule for all FBIS stations and of providing excerpts from programs monitored near Washington; a Publications Division responsible for preparing and issuing reports on incoming broadcasts for rapid distribution to government agencies requesting them and for maintaining a central background file; an Administrative Services Division responsible for mimeographing, collating, and distributing the processed reports; and a field organization responsible for operating field stations located at strategic points for interception of foreign broadcasts not monitored in the Washington area.

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4. The War Department was informed in December 1945 that the FCC was in process of liquidating the FBIS. The War Department thereupon expanded its monitoring program to meet the need arising from this liquidation. The War Department employed former FBIS personnel, effective 30 December 1945, and has since acquired by transfer all FBIS facilities, including those held by lease or contract. The War Department arranged for the renegotiation of outstanding leases and contracts.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

-2-

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5. The function of monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts should be continued since it is of value to the intelligence agencies of ~~the~~ State, <sup>Navy</sup> and Navy. The necessary budget arrangements to maintain this function should be made for the Fiscal Year 1947. The War Department is the only agency now prepared to undertake this budget problem and it has included the necessary funds in its budget requirements.

6. It appears that the present organization carrying on the former functions of the FBIS under War Department direction should be liquidated for the following reasons:

a. Its reports are circulated too generally to organizations and individuals, including foreign agencies. In order that proper intelligence direction may be given to its activities, its product should be restricted to authorized intelligence agencies of the Federal government.

b. The personnel of the organization have not been screened for security. Adequate screening is essential, since disclosure of the direction given to the activities of the organization would be detrimental to this Nation's interests and security.

7. The present organization should be supplanted by a new organization capable of performing the monitoring function required by authorized (intelligence) agencies of the Federal government.

8. Central direction of the monitoring effort should be given in order to insure that the specific needs of all proper recipients are considered.

This direction can be given by the Director of Central Intelligence, <sup>aided</sup> by a committee including a coordinator from the Central Intelligence Group and members from A-2, G-2, <sup>ORI</sup> and ONI.

9. Under such central direction, any of the <sup>four</sup> three departments concerned could operate the monitoring, editing and distributing of the press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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-3-

a. However, certain preliminary steps would be required before State (or Navy) could undertake the operation, including:-

- (1) Provision for the necessary administration and supply;
- (2) Transfer of the budget from War Department to the department which would take over the operation;
- (3) Arrangements for the necessary communication facilities between the field and Washington;
- (4) Screening of personnel for security purposes, including any members of the present organization who may be re-employed in the new organization.

b. Continued operation by the War Department would require only screening of the personnel.

9 10. Operation by the Central Intelligence Group (as distinguished from central direction of effort) would require that the same steps outlined under 9.a., above, be taken, with particular emphasis on arrangements for administration and supply.

11. Paragraph 3.c. of the President's letter of January 22 requires the Director of Central Intelligence to perform, for the benefit of intelligence agencies of the State, War and Navy Departments, "such services of common concern as the National Intelligence Authority determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally." It appears clear that direction of monitoring effort for the benefit of these intelligence agencies can be accomplished more efficiently centrally. However, with regard to efficiency of actual operation, little evidence can be found to justify a conclusion that operation by the Central Intelligence Group would be more efficient than operation by one of the departments. In any event, the evidence is not strong enough to justify the establishment of the required overhead facilities in the Central Intelligence Group, duplicating those already existing in other agencies. The following comments on relative efficiency also apply:

a. Lack of organic communication facilities militates against efficient and economical operation by the State Department.

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-4-

b. Lack of direct staff control of monitoring facilities by ONI militates against efficient operation by the Navy Department.

c. Lack of organic communication facilities and established overhead facilities militates against efficient and economical operation by the Central Intelligence Group.

d. Considering that the War Department has none of the lacks specified in a. to c. above, it is believed that operation of the function by the War Department would be somewhat more efficient and economical than by any other agency.

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**CONFIDENTIAL**

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N.I.A. DIRECTIVE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING PRESS  
AND PROPAGANDA OF FOREIGN POWERS  
BROADCASTS

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of the letter from the President, dated 22 January 1946, which designated this Authority as responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating the federal foreign intelligence activities so as to assure the most effective accomplishment of the intelligence mission related to the national security, the following policies and procedures relating to the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers are announced:

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an essential means of collecting intelligence information required by the intelligence agencies of the State, War and Navy Departments. It will be operated by the War Department so as to carry out collecting and distributing missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. The present organization carrying on this function under the control and direction of the War Department will be liquidated. Concurrently with the liquidation, a new foreign-broadcast monitoring service will be organized and operated by the War Department so as to serve, with a minimum of interruption, the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination. This service will be given a new name by the War Department.

**CONFIDENTIAL**



**CONFIDENTIAL**

- 2 -

3. The Director of Central Intelligence will be responsible for the assignment of appropriate collecting and distributing missions to the War Department official charged with the operation of this service. These missions will be such as to meet the needs of the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination.

4. The State and Navy Departments will give to the War Department such assistance and the use of such facilities, within their respective capabilities, as may be necessary properly to fulfill the mission herein assigned.

5. The War Department will take the necessary budgetary action to carry out the program herein initiated.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CPS/HFC/ctg

23 April, 1946.

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: C.P.S. Action on Survey of the Function of Monitoring  
of Press and Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers.

1. Transmitted herewith are the following papers comprising  
Central Planning Staff action on the FHS Survey:-

a. Memorandum to the members of the I.A.B., with:-

Enclosure A - Discussion;


Enclosure B - Report by the Director to the N.I.A.;

Enclosure C - Draft Directive announcing the policy.

2. Attention is invited to paragraph 8 of the "Discussion"  
(Enclosure A), in which provision is made for an advisory committee  
"including a coordinator from the Central Intelligence Group." It  
is suggested that such coordinator should be furnished by the Acting  
Chief of Operational Services, C.I.G.

3. Recommend that the transmitted papers be approved and  
forwarded.

25X1A

  
Chief, Central Planning Staff

Enclosures: As noted in para. 1.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DRAFT

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lt. Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg,  
Rear Admiral Thomas B. Inglis,  
Brig. Gen. George C. McDonald,  
Mr. Alfred McCormack,  
Honorable J. Edgar Hoover.

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Press and Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers.

25X1A

REFERENCE: (a) C.I.G. Directive [ ] dated 5 March 1946.  
(b) Report of Ad Hoc Committee to Survey Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service dated 18 March 1946.

1. During the war, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a foreign broadcast intelligence service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945.

2. The product of the FBIS has been valuable to State Department, to the intelligence agencies of the War and Navy Departments, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and undoubtedly to other Departments and agencies.

3. The War Department has requested that a permanent disposition of the functions of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers be determined since the interim arrangements would cease at the end of the Fiscal Year 1946.

4. Discussion of this matter is furnished in Enclosure "A".

5. It is concluded that:-

a. The function of monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts should be performed as a War Department operation, said operation to be performed under directives as to collection and distribution to be issued by the Director of Central Intelligence.

b. The present organization operating the service should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization, the liquidation and reorganization to be accomplished by the War Department in such manner that there shall be a minimum of interruption in the accomplishment of the missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**  
-2-

c. The State and Navy Departments should assist the War Department, within the measure of their capabilities, in the accomplishment of the missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

6. It is recommended that:-

a. The Draft Directive (Enclosure "C") be concurred in prior to its submission to the N.I.A.

b. The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, designate an officer to be responsible for carrying out the missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence pursuant to paragraph 3. of the Draft Directive (Enclosure "C").

c. Each member of the Intelligence Advisory Board designate a representative to serve as member of a committee to assist the Director of Central Intelligence in giving direction to the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

SIDNEY W. SOWERS  
Director

Enclosures:- "A" - Discussion.  
              "B" - Report by Director of Central Intelligence.  
              "C" - Draft Directive.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

DRAFT

W.I.A. DIRECTIVE ~~W.I.A.~~

*Provisional*  
THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING PRESS  
AND PROPAGANDA OF FOREIGN POWERS  
BROADCASTS

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of the letter from the President, dated 22 January 1946, which designated this Authority as responsible for planning, developing, and coordinating the federal foreign intelligence activities so as to assure the most effective accomplishment of the intelligence mission related to the national security, the following policies and procedures relating to the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers are announced:

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an essential means of collecting intelligence information required by the intelligence agencies of the State, War and Navy Departments. It will be operated by the War Department so as to carry out collecting and distributing missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

2. The present organization carrying on this function under the control and direction of the War Department will be liquidated. Concurrently with the liquidation, a new foreign-broadcast monitoring service will be organized and operated by the War Department so as to serve, with a minimum of interruption, the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination. This service will be given a new name by the War Department.

CONFIDENTIAL

*Appendix "A"*

- 2 -

3. The Director of Central Intelligence will be responsible for the assignment of appropriate collecting and distributing missions to the War Department official charged with the operation of this service. These missions will be such as to meet the needs of the intelligence agencies subject to our coordination.

4. The State and Navy Departments will give to the War Department such assistance and the use of such facilities, within their respective capabilities, as may be necessary properly to fulfill the mission herein assigned.

5. The War Department will take the necessary budgetary action to carry out the program herein initiated.

CONFIDENTIAL

Appendix "A"

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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ENCLOSURE "A"

MONITORING OF PRESS AND PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS CPS/HFC/pge

Discussion of points bearing upon and leading to Conclusions in the Director's Memorandum to Members of the Intelligence Advisory Board.

1. The function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is an overt means of obtaining intelligence information of use to the intelligence agencies of State, War and Navy Departments.
2. This function was originally undertaken by FBIS under the FCC early in 1941 as a result of recommendations made by the Defence communications Board.
3. The FBIS was organized functionally into: an office of the Director which gave general supervision to the service; a Monitoring Division responsible for preparing the monitoring schedule for all FBIS stations and of providing excerpts from programs monitored near Washington; a Publications Division responsible for preparing and issuing reports on incoming broadcasts for rapid distribution to government agencies requesting them and for maintaining a central background file; an Administrative Services Division responsible for mimeographing, collating,



25X1A

4. The War Department was informed in December 1945 that the FCC was in process of liquidating the FBIS. The War Department thereupon expanded its monitoring program to meet the need arising from this liquidation. The War Department employed former FBIS personnel, effective 30 December 1945, and has since acquired by transfer all FBIS facilities, including those held by lease or contract. The War Department arranged for the renegotiation of outstanding leases and contracts.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Appendix "B"*

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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5. The function of monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts should be continued since it is of value to the intelligence agencies of ~~the~~ State and Navy. The necessary budget arrangements to maintain this function should be made for the Fiscal Year 1947. The War Department is the only agency now prepared to undertake this budget problem and it has included the necessary funds in its budget requirements.

6. It appears that the present organization carrying on the former functions of the FBIS under War Department direction should be liquidated for the following reasons:

a. Its reports are circulated too generally to organizations and individuals, including foreign agencies. In order that proper intelligence direction may be given to its activities, its product should be restricted to authorized intelligence agencies of the Federal government.

b. The personnel of the organization have not been screened for security. Adequate screening is essential, since disclosure of the direction given to the activities of the organization would be detrimental to this Nation's interests and security.

7. The present organization should be supplanted by a new organization capable of performing the monitoring function required by authorized intelligence agencies of the Federal government.

8. Central direction of the monitoring effort should be given in order to insure that the specific needs of all proper recipients are considered. This direction can be given by the Director of Central Intelligence, in ~~aided by a committee including a coordinator from the Central Intelligence Group and members from A-2, G-2, CRI and CNI.~~

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9. Under such central direction, any of the three departments concerned could operate the monitoring, editing and distributing of the press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Appendix "B"*



**CONFIDENTIAL**

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a. However, certain preliminary steps would be required before State or Navy could undertake the operation, including:-

- (1) Provision for the necessary administration and supply;
- (2) Transfer of the budget from War Department to the department which would take over the operation;
- (3) Arrangements for the necessary communication facilities between the field and Washington;
- (4) Screening of personnel for security purposes, including any members of the present organization who may be re-employed in the new organization.

b. Continued operation by the War Department would require only screening of the personnel.

10. Operation by the Central Intelligence Group (as distinguished from central direction of effort) would require that the same steps outlined under 9.a., above, be taken, with particular emphasis on arrangements for administration and supply.

11. Paragraph 3.c. of the President's letter of January 22 requires the Director of Central Intelligence to perform, for the benefit of intelligence agencies of the State, War and Navy Departments, "such services of common concern as the National Intelligence Authority determines can be more efficiently accomplished centrally." It appears clear that direction of monitoring effort for the benefit of these intelligence agencies can be accomplished more efficiently centrally. However, with regard to efficiency of actual operation, little evidence can be found to justify a conclusion that operation by the Central Intelligence Group would be more efficient than operation by one of the departments. In any event, the evidence is not strong enough to justify the establishment of the required overhead facilities in the Central Intelligence Group, duplicating those already existing in other agencies. The following comments on relative efficiency also apply:

- a. Lack of organic communication facilities militates against efficient and economical operation by the State Department.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

CPS/RFO/pgs/ctg

DRIFT

MEMORANDUM FOR: Lt. Gen. Hoyt S. Vandenberg,  
Rear Admiral Thomas B. Inglis,  
Brig. Gen. George C. McDonald,  
Mr. Alfred McCormack,  
Honorable J. Edgar Hoover.

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Press and Propaganda Broadcasts of  
Foreign Powers.

25X1A

REFERENCE: (a) G.I.G. Directive [ ] dated 5 March 1946.  
(b) Report of Ad Hoc Committee to Survey Foreign  
Broadcast Intelligence Service dated  
18 March 1946.

1. During the war, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a foreign broadcast intelligence service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945.

2. The product of the FBIS has been valuable to State Department, to the intelligence agencies of the War and Navy Departments, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and undoubtedly to other Departments and agencies.

3. The War Department has requested that a permanent disposition of the functions of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers be determined since the interim arrangements would cease at the end of the Fiscal Year 1946.

4. Discussion of this matter is furnished in Enclosure "A".

5. It is concluded that:-

a. The function of monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts should be performed as a War Department operation, said operation to be performed under directives as to collection and distribution to be issued by the Director of Central Intelligence.

b. The present organization operating the service should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization, the liquidation and reorganization to be accomplished by the War Department in such manner that there shall be a minimum of interruption in the accomplishment of the missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

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c. The State and Navy Departments should assist the War Department, within the measure of their capabilities, in the accomplishment of the missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence.

6. It is recommended that:-

a. The Draft Directive (Enclosure "C") be concurred in prior to its submission to the N.I.A.

b. The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2, designate an officer to be responsible for carrying out the missions assigned by the Director of Central Intelligence pursuant to paragraph 3. of the Draft Directive (Enclosure "C").

c. Each member of the Intelligence Advisory Board designate a representative to serve as member of a committee to assist the Director of Central Intelligence in giving direction to the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

SIDNEY W. BOGERS  
Director

Enclosures:- "A" - Discussion.  
"B" - Report by Director of Central Intelligence.  
"C" - Draft Directive.

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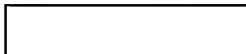
23 April, 1946.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: C.P.S. Action on Survey of the Function of Monitoring  
of Press and Propaganda Broadcasts of Foreign Powers.

1. Transmitted herewith are the following papers comprising  
Central Planning Staff action on the PHIC survey:-
  - a. Memorandum to the members of the I.A.S., with:-
    - Enclosure A - Discussion;
    - Enclosure B - Report by the Director to the N.I.A.;
    - Enclosure C - Draft Directive announcing the policy.
2. Attention is invited to paragraph 8 of the "Discussion"  
(Enclosure A), in which provision is made for an advisory committee  
"including a coordinator from the Central Intelligence Group." It  
is suggested that such coordinator should be furnished by the Acting  
Chief of Operational Services, C.I.G.
3. Recommend that the transmitted papers be approved and  
forwarded.

25X1A

  
Chief, Central Planning Staff

Enclosures: As noted in para. 1.

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**CONFIDENTIAL**

ENCLOSURE "B" CPS/HFC/ctg

DRAFT

NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY

THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING OF PRESS AND  
PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Report by the Director of Central Intelligence  
with the unanimous concurrence of the  
Intelligence Advisory Board

1. During the war, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a foreign broadcast intelligence service (FBIS), which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945. The War Department requested that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of the former FBIS function. An ad hoc committee was appointed by C.I.G. action to make this study. Their report has been submitted to the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board.

2. After consideration of all evidence submitted in the case, the Director of Central Intelligence concludes: that the function of monitoring press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers is necessary; that the present organization performing this function under control of the War Department should be liquidated and supplanted by a new organization better adapted to serve the needs of authorized intelligence agencies; and that the operation of the required monitoring system can be most efficiently performed by the War Department under directives as to collection and distribution to be issued by the Director of Central Intelligence.

3. The enclosed draft N.I.A. Directive has been prepared to provide the means for carrying out the recommendations based upon the above conclusions. It has been unanimously concurred in by the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, which included the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation as a member for consideration of this matter.

4. It is recommended that the National Intelligence Authority approve the draft directive in Enclosure "B".

**CONFIDENTIAL**

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY:

Subject: C.I.G.

STATINTL

1. The subject paper is
  - a. Approved without change ✓
  - b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below \_\_\_\_\_
  - c. Disapproved. Request meeting of I.A.B. to consider paper \_\_\_\_\_
2. Suggestions or amendments\*.....

3. My representative on the ad hoc committee will be

Mr. John D. Corcoran  
(Name)

217 State Bldg.  
(Address)

State Dept X-2947  
(Phone No.)

Return to: Room 4254  
New War Dept. Bldg.

Alfred J. Cornack  
(Signature)  
By Hon. F. F. Finnan  
27-2-46  
(Date)

\* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require security classification of this paper.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE SECRETARY, NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AUTHORITY:

STATINTL

Subject: C.I.G. ☐

1. The subject paper is
  - a. Approved without change ✓
  - b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below
  - c. Disapproved. Request meeting of I.A.B. to consider paper
2. Suggestions or amendments\*.....

3. My representative on the ad hoc committee will be

CAPTAIN A. C. J. SABALOT, USN

(Name)

Room 3073, Navy Department

(Address)

RE-7400, Extension 5653

(Phone No.)

*Mr. B. G. G. G.*  
(Signature)

Return to: Room 4254  
New War Dept. Bldg.

*27 Feb 46*  
(Date)

\* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require

STATINTL

Subject: C.I.G. ☐

1. The subject paper is
  - a. Approved without change X
  - b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below
  - c. Disapproved. Request meeting of I.A.B. to consider paper
2. Suggestions or amendments\*.....

3. My representative on the ad hoc committee will be

Brigadier General Carter W. Clarke  
(Name)

Room 2 E 780, Pentagon Building  
(Address)

REpublic 6700 - Extension 74195  
(Phone No.)

Return to: Room 4254  
New War Dept. Bldg.

Hoyt S. Vandenberg  
(Signature)  
HOYT S. VANDENBERG  
Lieut. General, GSC  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2  
27 February 1946  
(Date)

\* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require



STATINTL

Subject: C.I.G. ☐

1. The subject paper is

- for consideration of  
problems by  
C.D.S. is approved*
- a. ~~Approved without change~~
- b. Approved, subject to the minor amendments set out below
- c. ~~Disapproved. Request meeting of I.A.B. to consider paper~~ \* ✓

2. Suggestions or amendments.....

\* *Recommend ad hoc Committee type of business be established.*

3. My representative on the ad hoc committee will be

	(Name)
	(Address)
	(Phone No.)

*George B. Curran*  
(Signature)

*28 Feb '46*  
(Date)

54  
New War Dept. Bldg.

STATINTL

\* Inclusion of suggestions or amendments may require

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COPY NO. 12

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C.I.G. ☐25 February 1946CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUPSURVEY OF THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING PRESS  
AND PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERSMemorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence

1. During the war the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a Foreign Broadcasting Intelligence Service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.
2. The FCC was in the process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945. The War Department has requested that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of former FBIS functions with a view to determining the most appropriate Government agency to monitor foreign propaganda broadcasts on a continuing basis and make the necessary recommendations to the National Intelligence Authority (Enclosure "B").
3. It appears that this study should be undertaken as a matter of urgency. The Central Intelligence Group is prepared to furnish the steering member of an interdepartmental committee, and believes that such a committee should be organized at once to make the necessary study.
4. Paragraph 3 of N.I.A. Directive No. 1 provides a procedure by which such a committee can be created by unanimous approval of the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, without reference to the National Intelligence Authority.
5. The memorandum in Enclosure "A" is designed to establish the proposed committee and give it the necessary directive. If all members of the Advisory Board concur in the draft without substantial change, a meeting will not be necessary. It is

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recommended that Enclosure "A" be approved, and that each member of the Advisory Board arrange for necessary implementation by his Department,

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ENCLOSURE "A"

D R A F T

C.I.G. DIRECTIVE NO.

SURVEY OF THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING PRESS  
AND PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence,  
with the Unanimous Concurrence  
of the Intelligence Advisory Board

1. a. During the war the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) conducted a Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945.

b. The product of the FBIS was valuable to the State Department, to the intelligence agencies of the War and Navy Departments, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and undoubtedly to other departments and agencies.

c. Since the interim arrangements will cease at the end of the fiscal year 1946, it is essential that the ultimate disposition of former FBIS functions be determined at an early date.

2. By unanimous approval of the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board an ad hoc committee is hereby established to consist of five members, one representing the Director of Central Intelligence and one representing each member of the Intelligence Advisory Board. This committee will promptly make a detailed study of facilities, resources and operations for monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts, and will determine whether this service is of continuing value to existing Federal agencies. Its report will include recommendations as to:

a. Which resources, facilities, and operating functions should be continued in the national interest.

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CIG Approved For Release 2003/01/27 : CIA-RDP81-00728R000100040002-8 Enclosure "A"

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b. What disposition should be made of preserved resources and facilities and what assignments should be made of responsibility for conducting the preserved operating functions.

c. What budgetary arrangements should be made.

3. The committee will submit a report of findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Director of Central Intelligence, who will then prepare suitable recommendations to be submitted to the National Intelligence Authority after obtaining the concurrence or comment of the Intelligence Advisory Board. The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation will be invited to sit as a member of the Intelligence Advisory Board for consideration of these recommendations.

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Enclosure "A"

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ENCLOSURE "B"

12 February 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR REAR ADMIRAL SIDNEY W. SOUERS:

Subject: Monitoring of Foreign Propaganda Broadcasts.

1. During December 1945 the War Department was informed that the Federal Communications Commission was in process of liquidating its Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. Although systematic coverage of foreign propaganda broadcasts was believed primarily the concern of the State Department, it was also valuable as an auxiliary activity to the intelligence functions of the War and Navy Departments. Other government agencies were served by the product of the FBIS. Therefore, as an interim measure only, pending any program the State Department might initiate, the War Department expanded its monitoring program to meet the need arising from the liquidation of FBIS (Tab "A").

2. The War Department, with the approval of the Federal Communications Commission (Tab "B"), accordingly employed former FBIS personnel and placed them on the War Department payroll effective 30 December 1945; and all FBIS facilities, including those held by lease or contract, were acquired by the War Department on loan or by transfer. The War Department arranged for the renegotiation of outstanding leases and contracts, which now constitute a charge against its current operating expenses. Pending detailed arrangements, it acquired by loan fixed facilities and equipment owned by Federal Communications Commission necessary to continued FBIS operations. See Tab "C" for the functional organization of FBIS.

3. It is inappropriate and outside of the scope of its responsibilities for the War Department to continue monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts beyond the fiscal year 1946

(June 30, 1946). Another government agency should be prepared to

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continue the FBIS function after that date. It is therefore proposed that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of the FBIS and its related Central Intelligence functions and make the necessary recommendations to the National Intelligence Authority with a view to determining the most appropriate government agency to monitor foreign propaganda broadcasts on a continuing basis. It is recommended that the War and Navy Departments be informed as early as practicable as to the ultimate disposition of FBIS.

/s/ HOYT S. VANDENBERG  
Lieutenant General, GSC  
Asst. Chief of Staff, G-2

3 Incls:  
1. Tab "A"  
2. Tab "B"  
3. Tab "C"

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Enclosure "B"

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TAB "A" TO ENCLOSURE "B"

21 December 1945

Honorable Paul Porter  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Porter:

The War Department is advised that the Federal Communications Commission is liquidating the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (FBIS), which monitors and digests propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

Systematic coverage of foreign propaganda broadcasts is believed primarily the concern of the State Department. It also is valuable to the War and Navy Departments. In the circumstances of these times it is an essential source of intelligence. As an interim measure, pending any program the State Department may initiate, the War Department plans to expand its monitoring program to meet the need arising from the liquidation of the FBIS.

It is proposed that all FBIS personnel, without change of grade or duties or accrued leave, be transferred to the War Department prior to 31 December 1945 and that the Commission hold the personnel together by continuing operations pending an orderly determination and transfer of those essential to continued operations.

It is considered important that agreement in principle to the necessary transfers be reached immediately in order to avoid loss of continuity and of experienced personnel. A mutually satisfactory settlement of the details can readily be made by representatives of the War Department and of the Commission. The G-2 Division will represent the War Department in this matter.

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- 7 - Tab "A" to Enclosure "B"



Your acceptance of these proposals is requested. It will facilitate War Department plans to expand its monitoring program in the national interest.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ ROBERT P. PATTERSON

Secretary of War

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- 8 - Tab "A" to Enclosure "B"

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TAB "B" TO ENCLOSURE "B"

December 27, 1945

Honorable Robert P. Patterson  
Secretary of War  
Pentagon Building  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Secretary Patterson:

This will acknowledge your letter of 21 December 1945 proposing a transfer to the War Department of the Commission personnel who have been engaged in the monitoring of foreign shortwave broadcasts and further proposing the loan to the War Department of all Federal Communications Commission facilities which have been employed in that activity.

The Commission accepts the proposals made in your letter and steps are being taken immediately to effectuate the arrangements which you suggest. To this end representatives of the War Department and representatives of the Commission met this morning for the purpose of making detailed plans.

The Commission is pleased that the War Department has found it possible to carry on this important activity.

By Direction of the Commission

[Redacted Signature]

Chairman

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- 9 - Tab "B" to Enclosure "B"

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*File*  
**Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT**


TO : Secretary, N.I.A.  
FROM : Acting Chief, Central Planning Staff  
SUBJECT: Monitoring of Foreign Propaganda Broadcasts

DATE: 20 February 1946

1. The Planning Staff has prepared a draft of action on this, for the Director to lay before the Intelligence Advisory Board.

2. The Planning Staff has retained a file copy of General Vandenberg's letter. It is suggested that a brief memorandum of acknowledgement might be prepared for the Admiral's signature, acknowledging receipt of General Vandenberg's memorandum and stating that an appropriate recommendation will be prepared.

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Acting Chief, Central  
Planning Staff*Admiral  
says  
"never  
mind!"  
MB*

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C.I.G. ☐

25 February 1946

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

SURVEY OF THE FUNCTION OF MONITORING PRESS  
AND PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

MEMORANDUM BY THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

1. During the war the Federal Communications Commission conducted a Foreign Broadcasting Intelligence Service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.
2. The FCC was in the process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945. The ~~Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2~~ <sup>War Department</sup> has requested that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of former FBIS functions with a view to determining the most appropriate Government agency to monitor foreign propaganda broadcasts on a continuing basis and make the necessary recommendations to the National Intelligence Authority. (Enclosure "B").
3. It appears that this study should be undertaken as a matter of urgency. The CIG is prepared to furnish the steering member of

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- 1 -

an interdepartmental committee, and believes that such a committee should be organized at once to make the necessary study.

4. Paragraph 3 of N.I.A. Directive No. 1 provides a procedure by which such a committee can be created by unanimous approval of the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board, without reference to the National Intelligence Authority.

5. The memorandum in Enclosure "A" is designed to establish the proposed committee and give it the necessary directive. If all members of the Advisory Board concur in the draft without substantial change, a meeting will not be necessary. It is recommended that Enclosure "A" be approved ~~unanimously~~, and that each member of the Advisory Board arrange for necessary implementation by his Department.

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PROPAGANDA BROADCASTS OF FOREIGN POWERS

Memorandum by the Director of Central Intelligence,  
with the Unanimous Concurrence of the Intelligence  
Advisory Board

1. a. During the war the Federal Communications Commission conducted a Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (FBIS) which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. The FCC was in process of liquidating this agency when its functions were taken over by the War Department on an interim basis on 30 December 1945.

b. The product of the FBIS was valuable to the State Department, ~~and~~ to the intelligence agencies of the War and Navy Departments, ~~and~~ *to the Federal Bureau of Investigation* ~~and~~ *undoubtedly* ~~undoubtedly~~ *to other Departments and agencies.*

c. Since the interim arrangements will cease at the end of the fiscal year 1946, it is essential that the ultimate disposition of former FBIS functions be determined at an early date.

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2. By unanimous approval of the Director of Central Intelligence and the Intelligence Advisory Board an ad hoc committee is hereby established to consist of five members, one representing the Director of Central Intelligence and one representing each member of the Intelligence Advisory Board. This committee will promptly make a detailed study of facilities, resources and operations for monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts, and will determine whether this service is of continuing value to existing Federal agencies. Its report will include recommendations as to:

a. Which resources, facilities and operating functions should be continued in the national interest.

b. What disposition should be made of preserved resources and facilities and what assignments should be made of responsibility for conducting the preserved operating functions.

c. What budgetary arrangements should be made.

3. The committee will submit a report of findings, conclusions and recommendations to the Director of Central Intelligence, who will

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then prepare suitable recommendations to be submitted to the National

Intelligence Authority *after obtaining the concurrence or comment of the Intelligence Advisory Board.*

4. The CIG representative on the committee will be steering member. The members of the Advisory Board will have their respective committee members report to the Director of Central Intelligence for instructions. Stenographic assistance, office space and recorder will be furnished by the War Department, as arranged by Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2.

*The Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation will be invited to sit as a member of the Intelligence Advisory Board for consideration of these recommendations.*

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WAR DEPARTMENT  
WAR DEPARTMENT GENERAL STAFF  
MILITARY INTELLIGENCE DIVISION, G-2  
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.

12 February 1946

MEMORANDUM FOR REAR ADMIRAL SIDNEY W. SOUERS:

SUBJECT: Monitoring of Foreign Propaganda Broadcasts

1. During December 1945 the War Department was informed that the Federal Communications Commission was in process of liquidating its Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service (FBIS), which monitored press and propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers. Although systematic coverage of foreign propaganda broadcasts was believed primarily the concern of the State Department, it was also valuable as an auxiliary activity to the intelligence functions of the War and Navy Departments. Other Government agencies were served by the product of the FBIS. Therefore, as an interim measure only, pending any program the State Department might initiate, the War Department expanded its monitoring program to meet the need arising from the liquidation of FBIS (Tab A).

2. The War Department, with the approval of the Federal Communications Commission (Tab B), accordingly employed former FBIS personnel and placed them on the War Department payroll effective 30 December 1945; and all FBIS facilities, including those held by lease or contract, were acquired by the War Department on loan or by transfer. The War Department arranged for the renegotiation of outstanding leases and contracts, which now constitute a charge against its current operating expenses. Pending detailed arrangements, it acquired by loan fixed facilities and equipment owned by Federal Communications Commission necessary to continued FBIS operations. See Tab C for the functional organization of FBIS.

3. It is inappropriate and outside of the scope of its responsibilities for the War Department to continue monitoring foreign press and propaganda broadcasts beyond the fiscal year 1946 (June 30, 1946). Another Government agency should be prepared to continue the FBIS function after that date. It is therefore proposed that the Director of Central Intelligence assume responsibility for the proper disposition of the FBIS and its related Central Intelligence functions and make the necessary recommendations to the National Intelligence Authority with a view to determining the most appropriate Government Agency to monitor foreign propaganda broadcasts on a continuing basis. It is recommended that the War and Navy Departments be informed as early as practicable as to the ultimate disposition of FBIS.

3 Incls:

1. Tab A
2. Tab B
3. Tab C

*HOYT S. VANDENBERG*  
HOYT S. VANDENBERG  
Lieutenant General, GSC  
Assistant Chief of Staff, G-2

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21 December 1945

Honorable Paul Porter  
Chairman, Federal Communications Commission  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Porter:

The War Department is advised that the Federal Communications Commission is liquidating the Foreign Broadcast Intelligence Service, which monitors and digests propaganda broadcasts of foreign powers.

Systematic coverage of foreign propaganda broadcasts is believed primarily the concern of the State Department. It also is valuable to the War and Navy Departments. In the circumstances of these times it is an essential source of intelligence. As an interim measure, pending any program the State Department may initiate, the War Department plans to expand its monitoring program to meet the need arising from the liquidation of FBIS.

It is proposed that all FBIS personnel, without change of grade or duties or accrued leave, be transferred to the War Department prior to 31 December 1945 and that the Commission hold the personnel together by continuing operations pending the transfer. It is also proposed that the Commission discontinue liquidating and make available by loan to the War Department all FBIS facilities, including those acquired by lease or contract, pending an orderly determination and transfer of those essential to continued operations.

It is considered important that agreement in principle to the necessary transfers be reached immediately in order to avoid loss of continuity and of experienced personnel. A mutually satisfactory settlement of the details can readily be made by representatives of the War Department and of the Commission. The G-2 Division will represent the War Department in this matter.

Your acceptance of these proposals is requested. It will facilitate War Department plans to expand its monitoring program in the national interest.

Sincerely yours,

/s/ Robert P. Patterson

Secretary of War

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December 27, 1945

Honorable Robert P. Paterson  
Secretary of War  
Pentagon Building  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Secretary Patterson:

This will acknowledge your letter of 21 December 1945 proposing a transfer to the War Department of the Commission personnel who have been engaged in the monitoring of foreign shortwave broadcasts and further proposing the loan to the War Department of all Federal Communications Commission facilities which have been employed in that activity.

The Commission accepts the proposals made in your letter and steps are being taken immediately to effectuate the arrangements which you suggest. To this end representatives of the War Department and representatives of the Commission met this morning for the purpose of making detailed plans.

The Commission is pleased that the War Department has found it possible to carry on this important activity.

By Direction of the Commission

/s/ Paul A. Porter

Paul A. Porter  
Chairman

CRD/to

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